

The Messenger.

THE WORSHIP OF JOHN BROWN.

Mr. William E. Connelly has published a book on the Kansas cutthroat and murderer, John Brown, of Pottawatomie massacre, now infamy. We have not seen this volume, so great a waste of time in preparation, but it is not of the run-of-the-mill sort, but that literary weekly, very northern, says this, very much to the disgust no doubt, of every southern subscriber who may read it:

"The story of old John Brown is a perennial one, and must so remain, as is that of all lives that were absolutely sincere, forceful, and single-hearted when devoted to absorbing human problems and struggles."

The probability is that a more fanatical sounder never lived. It seems that there has been written before some three or four biographies of this bad man by northern admirers of the rabid type. Mr. Connelly is a Tennesseean by birth. He is probably a republican, a disciple of Brownlow, and a man of northern sympathies if of southern parentage.

We would not have referred to this most recent attempt to give John Brown character but for a short article we happened to see in the same literary weekly by a scholarly gentleman of Baltimore, a man of letters and culture, Mr. Eugene L. Didier. The cause of his article is given by him. It seems it was proposed by some committee or men to have John Brown among the alleged "immortals" who are to find a place in the "Hall of Fame" of the university of New York. Old John of course would appear in full paint and feathers, and with hands wreathed with the blood of his Kansas victims. Think of the old phrenetic barbarian sitting with and where Washington, Lee and other truly great men are introduced. It would be a great shock and offence, we may not doubt, to every southern man of proper patriotism and sensibilities and regard for the "eternal fitness of things," to see such a proposition made, much less fulfilled. It was plainly an outrage upon decency, respectability, virtue, manhood, character. Mr. Didier protested and a Mr. J. S. Gaines protested in turn at what Mr. D. said. Mr. Didier replies briefly in the weekly named above, and with plainness and emphasis of speech. As old Brown is one of the northern idols, and a scoundrel of the first order, we give a part of what the accomplished Baltimorean writes:

"That he was a robber and murderer history proves. From persons now living, who were in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, in October, 1859, I have ascertained that in advance of the raid on Virginia, John Brown sent his emissaries, under the guise of book agents, to visit the homes of the people in Maryland and Virginia in order to excite the slaves to insurrection. These so-called book agents accepted the hospitality of the farmers, talked very smoothly in the parlor and bade the family good-night, and retired. But, instead of going to bed, they went to the kitchen and tried to persuade the slaves to kill their masters in sleep."

The explanation given of the course of Gaines is easy, and lets him down. He is not an Anglo-Saxon, and we suppose is "a gentleman of African descent." Mr. Didier tells an old story but all true, when he writes:

"I am not wedded to the 'petrified' ideals of the days of slavery. But I know there never was a happier, more contented and better treated people on the face of the earth than the southern slaves; and I know there is not, and never was, a more degraded, more brutal, a more shameless people on the earth than the children and grandchildren of those same slaves, and that, too, after thirty-five years of 'blessed' freedom."

Since Mr. Didier published in the Saturday Review, a weekly of high character, there appeared an article of value in the issue of October 13th. Mr. Redpath, the writer referred to, was an admirer of Brown originally. Mr. Augustus A. Levy, of New York City, writing of the character of John Brown saying "that during the last year of the life of James Redpath, I enquired why he did not publish another edition of his life of Brown, which had then become scarce and in demand. Mr. Redpath, who was one of the most conscientious men I have ever known, informed me that he had reason for changing the opinion he had expressed in his biography, which he had written currente calamo in two weeks after the execution of Brown; that he now regarded Brown as a 'red-blooded murderer,' referring to his attack on the sleeping men of Pottawatomie as a deliberate and inexcusable massacre of unresisting human beings."

"Mr. Redpath expressed regret to me that, acting upon the impulse of contemporaneous enthusiasm, he had ever written about Brown in laudatory terms."

This worship of such a brutal villain by men and women in the north is not only marvelous but degrading. The old way of spelling the place of the murderer in Kansas is given in this extract, but the other way is given near the beginning of this editorial.

NO CHANCE TO REDUCE.

Taxation can never be reduced under the practice of the party now in power. The plan of the administration is one of cumulating cost and extravagance. You can not cut down taxes while expending the moneys in such great sums. It is a fact that there is not "the immense surplus" in the treasury, you read of. The officials say that the present enormous receipts are barely sufficient to meet

current expenses. The income of the government from all taxes was \$167,618,821.36. The treasury men say it is absurd to talk of razeing the internal taxation. We get the following from the Washington special to the Houston (Texas) Post:

"The cash balance in the treasury has sunk from \$150,000,000 to \$133,000,000. In three years and a half the government will be called upon to redeem over \$40,000,000 in 5 per cent. bonds. All attempts at making a sinking fund for their redemption have been abandoned by the administration. Surplus earnings at the present rate of \$2,600,000 a year will not make up the \$40,000,000 needed to pay the bondholder on February 1, 1904."

"But this is not all. For three years after that the government will be called upon to pay the enormous total of \$240,000,000 of bonds issued during 1877-79."

"Treasury officials say it would be impossible to carry on the administration's present policy should any material reduction be made in the internal revenue law. That law is furnishing the bulk of the income of the nation."

STEVENSON FOR VICE PRESIDENT.

Very little is said of Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson in the public prints. He is the very worthy and honorable nominee of the democrats for vice president. He is a man of excellent sense, of high character, of real modesty and merit. He makes clear, sensible, impressive speeches wherever he goes, but they are completely free from all the clap-trap and violence and falsehoods of Hanna and Roosevelt, the most unworthy republican twins, who are beating the air and working their jaws in wild denunciations and slanders. The Savannah News has this timely contrast:

"General Stevenson is the antipodes of Colonel Roosevelt. Where the latter is noisy and sensational, the former is quiet and conservative. When Roosevelt seeks to stampee with a rush and a whoop, Stevenson seeks to lead with logical reasoning. Roosevelt is impatient with and intolerant of those who do not agree with him. Stevenson grants to his listeners the liberty of thought, and seeks to prove to him by facts and figures that the democratic way of thinking is the right one. Roosevelt is the personification of turmoil and radicalism; Stevenson of deliberation and conservatism. One represents hesitating action, the other careful thought."

HOME FOLKS

Major Guthrie, of Durham, made a speech at Greensboro on the issues of the day—that is highly praised by several newspapers. By the way, the election is two weeks from today.

The state fair at Raleigh is now going on. It lasts all the week. It is said to be a good one.

Judge Boyd by his extraordinary charge to the jury at Greensboro, has given courage to the radical ringsters. They are circulating a garbled part of it. Well, they may catch the democrats napping, but if they do it is very stupid and simple in them to be found in this condition.

Judge Allen replied to Col. J. R. Webster at length, and the latter appears in a rejoinder filling six or seven columns. The judge is for Simmons and the editor is for Carr. What a wonderful amount of writing the friends of Carr and Simmons have done in their behalf, more, we doubt not, than they did in the canvass for white supremacy, than they have thought of doing for Bryan and the nine candidates for the federal house.

Gen. Julian S. Carr having been reflected upon in some way as to his military record in the war, Mr. Wiley S. Riddick, of Youngsville, N. C., who was lieutenant in Company I, Forty-first regiment, C. S. A., writes a short article to the Raleigh Post concerning it. He says:

"General Carr served as a private until the close of the war, always depicting himself as a model soldier and having the entire confidence of both officers and men. Although a mere boy when he joined the company, his conduct and devotion to duty soon won a place for him in the hearts of all his comrades. As I was much in command of our company, I had opportunity to observe the stuff of which the men were made, and I soon came to know the quality of 'Jule' Carr's gift in the performance of dangerous service and to trust him as much as I did any man in my company. In fact, he was the same as a soldier as he has since been as a citizen. His whole soul was in it, and he was ever ready to move at the head of the column."

Our purpose in copying is simply to aid in protecting his soldierly record in the great war. The newspapers should see to it that the good name of worthy, faithful soldiers is shielded from censure.

Representative W. W. Kitchin, in the Fifth district, is making an active, efficient canvass. The Madison Observer says:

"Mr. Kitchin has very near made a complete canvass of his district, and he has done some good work and we have no fear but what he will be elected by as large or larger majority in November as he received two years ago. The people of the Fifth congressional district can truthfully say they have a good and true man in congress."

Recently in North Carolina an electric plant for Shelby has been reported. Also a furniture factory, a lumber mill and two peanut factories for the state. Not so much is heard of new cotton mills as was the case in the spring of this year and last year.

The Charlotte Observer as a newspaper is progressive. It announces that it will be a daily paper hereafter issuing seven times a week.

Working Night and Day. The busiest and mightiest little thing that ever was made is Dr. King's New Life Pills. Every pill is a sugar-coated globe of health, that changes weakness into strength, listlessness into energy, brain-fog into mental power. They're wonderful in building up the health. Only 25 cents per box. Sold by R. R. Bellamy.

BREVITIES

The Synod of Virginia has 12 Presbyteries, 463 churches, 43,207 coming members, and 250 ministers. Fourteen of them are foreign missionaries.

All have heard of the beautiful song of "Annie Laurie." She was a German woman born in Scotland in 1862, and the daughter of Sir Robert Laurie. He rejected her, young Douglass, wrote it and Lady Scott Spotswoode, who died this year, gave the modern version of the song.

Hon. Justice McCarthy, the eminent and gifted Irish leader, has received a private annuity since his retirement from public life. It was from men not of his party.

The greatest newspaper correspondent in Europe is Henri de Blowitz. He writes for the London Times. He prophesies a "great war among the nations of civilization." This is accepted in Downing Street, London.

At Elkton, Ky., on the 18th, a negro was taken from jail and hanged by a mob. He was hanged for trying to get into a house to rape the farmer's wife. A mob hanged a negro at Baton Rouge for shooting a conductor, William Jordan.

Tom Reed is not canvassing for McKinley. Nor is Benjamin Harrison. Significant.

Charles Dudley Warner, a New England man of letters and candidly gifted died suddenly recently. He was a genial and clever writer.

Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) born in Saint Louis, fell heir to \$200,000 of debts made by a publication house at Hartford, Conn., of which he was a partner. He went abroad to make money, to pay the debt and this he has done by the sweat of his brain. He returns to his native land, and is warmly greeted for his noble act of honesty and self-sacrifice. Sir Walter Scott was succeeded by another publishing house, he was identified with. After fifty-four he paid off an indebtedness of nearly a half a million dollars. Scott, the immortal, and Clemens, the American, are uncommon examples of great integrity.

JOHN SHERMAN DEAD

He Passed Away at an Early Hour Yesterday Morning

Washington, October 22.—Hon. John Sherman, former representative in the house, for a long time a member of the senate, and twice holding a cabinet position, died at his residence in this city at 6:45 o'clock this morning, in the 78th year of his age. His death had been expected for some days, and his friends gave him their unremitting care and attention to the end. The immediate cause of death was described as brain exhaustion, incident to extreme weakness due to old age and to several attacks of sickness from which he has suffered for the past year and a half. Since Saturday afternoon Mr. Sherman had been for the most of the time unconscious, rallying partially at intervals when some slight nourishment was given him. Yesterday afternoon evidences of the approaching end were manifest and he failed to regain consciousness after 3 o'clock, passing away peacefully just after dawn broke.

The news of Mr. Sherman's death was communicated to the state department by E. J. Babcock, for many years private secretary and clerk to Mr. Sherman and at present private secretary to Secretary Hay. The president was at once informed of the death, and the flags on the public buildings in Washington were lowered at half mast, so to remain until after the funeral. The president, as a mark of special honor to the deceased, who was not at his death, directed that in any official capacity with the government of the United States, reported to the annual course of personally preparing an expression of the nation's grief in the shape of a proclamation descriptive of the personal qualities and civic abilities of the deceased statesman.

At the state department also a message was framed to be transmitted to the United States ambassadors, ministers and charges abroad, officially notifying them of the death of ex-Secretary Sherman. The department will be closed for business during the funeral services in order to allow the officials and employees to attend in person.

The president was greatly affected by the news. He immediately directed that the White house be closed to visitors and the flag over the executive mansion placed at half mast.

The funeral will be held at the Sherman residence Wednesday afternoon, Rex Alexander MacKay Smith, rector of St. John's, officiating. Services will be held in Mansfield, Ohio, on Thursday which President McKinley will attend.

The president this afternoon issued a proclamation announcing the death of Mr. Sherman, and paying tribute to his memory.

The proclamation directs that on the day of the funeral the executive offices of the United States display the national flag at half mast and that the representatives of the United States in foreign countries shall pay in like manner appropriate tribute to the illustrious dead for a period of ten days.

A Sensational Divorce Suit

London, October 22.—Sensational testimony is anticipated at the trial of a divorce suit brought by the Marchioness of Anglesey against her husband, who is her cousin. The present Marquis's father married as his third wife, an American, Mrs. Livingston Woodhouse, widow of Henry Woodhouse, and daughter of J. P. King, of Sand Hills, Ga.

Chicago's Registered Vote

Chicago, October 22.—Revised figures for the registration in Chicago and Clero returned to the board of election commissioners today show a total of 402,833 entitled to vote at the coming election. Of these 3,581 are in Clero. This is an increase of 22,588 over 1896.

Cholera in Japan

St. Petersburg, October 22.—A dispatch received here from Vladivostok says cholera is increasing to such an extent in Japan that steamers thence have been quarantined. The dispatch adds there have been a number of deaths on board of steamers coming from Nagasaki.

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